## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Patent Application of

SANTOKI et al

Atty. Ref.: 1417-366

Serial No. 09/976,296

Group: 2651

Filed: October 15, 2001

Examiner:

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND PROCESS

FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

RECEIVEL TC 1700

May 7, 200 RECEIVED

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

MAY 0 9 2002

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report Search Report mailed March 27, 2002 in the corresponding European application No. 01308739 and a copy of each document cited in it together with a completed Form PTO-1449.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)], an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner [Commissioner's Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 12-25 at 25].

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VAMPERHYE P.C.

By:

Arthur R. Crawford Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:pfc

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100